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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: James David LARSEN et al)
TITLE: CELLULAR COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WITH)
MOBILE STATIONS ACTING AS RELAY STATIONS)
COMPLETION OF PCT/GB98/00661 filed 03 March 1998)

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents (DO/EO/US)
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application being filed herewith under 35 USC 371.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-22 from the published International application as well as claims 1-21 from the International Preliminary Examination Report and substitute new claims 23-43 as follows:

1. ~~23~~. (New) A method of transmitting data between stations in a cellular wireless communication system comprising a plurality of mobile stations and a plurality of base stations, the method comprising locating a plurality of base stations so that each base station has a zone of effective coverage which does not overlap with the zones of effective coverage of adjacent base stations, thereby defining zones of reduced coverage between the base stations, and relaying a data message from a sender station to a destination station via at least one relay station, wherein at least one of the sender station and the destination station is a base station, and wherein the other of said sender station and said destination station is a mobile station located within a zone of reduced coverage with respect to said base station, so that transmission of the data message from the sender station to the destination station does not interfere with adjacent base stations.--